



E435

.M82

E. 43-
ms2

LETTER

OF

HON. O. F. MOORE,

OF OHIO,

2 14
5 3 6 3

TO HIS CONSTITUENTS.



AMERICAN ORGAN, PRINT.
1856.

ev.

TO MY CONSTITUENTS.

Without stopping to enquire, whether it may not be wholly unnecessary, I desire to announce *publicly*, what I have upon all occasions heretofore said *privately*, to those with whom I have conversed on the subject, that I shall not *in any event* be a candidate for re-election to the office now held by me. And for the very liberal support which you gave me, when a candidate for your suffrage heretofore, permit me now to return you my most grateful acknowledgments, and to express the only regret that I have, that my ability to discharge the high duties of that office, is not more commensurate with the liberality of that support. In my course as your representative, I have doubtless failed to satisfy some, perhaps many, of my constituents, but while I would regret such an occurrence, I must claim for myself in that behalf, an honesty of purpose, the exercise of my best judgment, and a sincere belief that I was acting in accordance with what was expected of me, by a large majority of those who contributed to my election. I *know* that I have not erred as to my purpose, and the promptings of my judgment, but I may possibly have misconceived the expectations of my supporters. Without knowing this, however, and believing otherwise, I have no apologies to make, no excuse to give, no regrets to express. The record is made, I abide by it—with nothing to add, nothing to abate—Upon the close of my term I shall settle down in the peaceful, quiet, and to me, agreeable pursuit of my profession, from which I trust I shall not soon again either desire, or be tempted to stray. If I had ever doubted, the experience of the last few months has fully satisfied me, that my *ambition* to obtain office and position, greatly exceeds my *taste* to enjoy them, when attained: and if there were no other motive to restrain and curb me, this would be quite adequate. There are other considerations, however, to *fix* me in this determination, quite sufficient of themselves, but they are of a private personal nature. They console me and those dearer to me than the vanities of my political ambition, and it is unnecessary therefore that they should be given to the public.

Having said this much, I ought possibly to discuss the subject; but occupying still as I do, a public station, and away from those with whom in days past, I have co-operated politically, I cannot suffer the occasion to pass without adding a word or two in relation to the approaching Presidential election. And having announced promptly my determination

to retire from the field of political controversy, at least as an aspirant, and without any information as to the feeling at home since the recent conventions, I cannot certainly be influenced by any desire to adapt my views to suit the popular will in my district. I shall speak therefore with entire freedom. The whole field of political strife has been calmly and dispassionately surveyed—the storm as it gathers at one point bursts forth with all its fury at another, and although by nature, habit, education and association, the last to croak, I confess, that in my humble judgment the country this day is in more imminent danger of open rupture, intestine war and bloodshed, than ever before; nay more, that we are even now in the very midst of a *domestic disquietude* which if not speedily checked by the quiet, virtuous, intelligent people of the country, will rock this government to its very center. And who is to blame? I may be somewhat prejudiced, but surely I am not so *blinded* as to err, when I charge it directly upon the party who with a hand mischievous without a parallel, struck out of existence a time-honored and revered settlement between the North and South upon the delicate and vexed subject of slavery, and thereby re-opened agitation in relation to it, with all the concomitant evils that has ever been the result of such agitation. Out of that, has originated all the strife, the danger, the sectional bickering and animosity, the anarchy and bloodshed, which now exists in the government. It has been the means on the one side of stimulating, and of giving position, respectability and character to a class of men who have ever repudiated all conservatism, and lived only when slavery agitation existed. While on the other, it has rendered more arrogant aggressive and despotic the already too arrogant aggressive and despotic slaveocracy which exists in certain, but happily small, portions of the country. Under the circumstances, I need not say, that I have heartily desired, in common with a large body of the people, to see the government speedily relieved of an administration wicked enough in the first instance to perpetrate the wanton wrong and outrage, and then, either *culpably, unwilling* or too *imbecile*, to stay the mischievous consequences growing out of it.—But how was this malady already so disastrous, and so fraught with evil, to be remedied? There were medicines enough, and good men too, to administer them, to check, if not wholly to eradicate the disease, as widespread and as deeply seated as it was; but it was not every remedy capable of removing the disease, that I was willing to see applied, and much less every *quack* who proposed a nostrum, that I was willing to employ. There was in my humble conception even in this malady such a thing as a medicine though quite sufficient to stay the disease, but more fatal in its consequences, than the malady itself. And there were physicians too, quite willing to prescribe, who either for ignorance or design, were far more likely to produce fatal consequences than the disease itself with all its virulence and

threatening fatality. I desired to see no such remedy prescribed, and no such physician employed.

“ Better to bear the ill's we have,
Than fly to those we know not of.”

Well, the Democracy assembled in convention at Cincinnati, and nominated their ticket for the Presidency, and I shall not so far stultify myself as to say, that so far as eminent ability and enlarged experience in governmental affairs are concerned, it was a nomination “not fit” to be made. Forced upon the convention, as it was, by the overwhelming torrent of public sentiment as exhibited everywhere, but especially in the North with the rank and file of the party, they could not have done otherwise than *contemptuously* to spurn from them the men who had so wantonly betrayed their trust and involved the whole country in peril. And it was done—wisely, doubtless; and if they had stopped there, the country might have rested secure,—but not so: The policy of the present Administration was endorsed to *appease* the disappointed, and while they *spit* upon the traitors they accepted all the fruits of the treason. With no new estate, they have suggested administrators upon the broken fortunes of their deceased party leaders;—respectable they may be, in point of ability, but with no power, or will, or hope, to redeem from bankruptcy and ruin their only capital, the estate received from their deserted intestates. The good and true men of the country turned with disappointment, loathing and disgust, from the inauspicious and unpromising results, as a whole, of the Cincinnati Convention, as wholly inadequate to meet the exigencies of the times, and directed their eyes, their hopes and affections, to Philadelphia. The seventeenth of June came, and prompted by one consideration and another—many doubtless by the purest patriotism, and the most enlarged conservatism—that celebrated body of men assembled in convention. The hopes of the all-powerful opposition element to the present dynasty of terror and disgrace, seemed to be concentrated in one man, and he, too, pre-eminent in ability and learning, virtue and patriotism, ripe in age and experience, with administrative powers unsurpassed, “with a mind made up, if elected, he would reform the Government, and rest the executive power on the great principles of the Constitution, or fall in the attempt.” No one need speak of the mingled hopes and fears which prevailed while this convention progressed with its business. There were those, who from the first despaired that any good *could* come out of an assembly instigated, managed and controlled by the men who were its master-spirits. But there were others who, though desponding, hoped on. The result of that convention is known to the country. With the announcement of the nomination of Fremont, as it spread with lightning rapidity over the land, expired the last hope that lingered around the Philadelphia Convention. What a fall!

Judge McLean, with all his age, learning and experience, his fame, his stern integrity—the hopes of quiet, peace, purity, safety and glory to the country, concentrated in him—rejected! And a man, whose only merit, so far as history records it is in the fact, that he was born in South Carolina, crossed the Rocky Mountains, subsisted on frogs, lizzards, snakes and grasshoppers, and *captured* a woolly horse, chosen as the person to control the destinies of this great nation! And this too by the cool, deliberate intellectual men of New England and the North!! But what shall we do? If Judge McLean had been nominated, no one could have hesitated. Nor can I now hesitate to take position. As warmly and as steadily as I have heretofore opposed the Democratic party, and as bitterly as I denounce the Cincinnati platform now, with my respect for the ability, age and experience of Mr. Buchanan, and with my *contempt* for the claims of Fremont, and the *arrant folly*—to use no harsher term—of those who *dictated* his nomination, if I were *compelled* this day to choose between them I should vote for Mr. Buchanan. But happily we are relieved from this dilemma. There is still another candidate in the field—a gentleman also of eminent ability, of experience, and of integrity; Union loving, fearless in the discharge of public duty, watchful of the rights of all and regardless of none;—one who could, even in these times, administer this government with the same scrupulous care for the constitutional rights and guaranties of the people in all parts of the country, as it was administered by the early Presidents:—an *Executive* in the truest acceptation of that term, who will neither *palsey* the will of the people as expressed through their representatives, or fail fearlessly to *execute* that will when so expressed.—The noblest Roman of them all; I am for him. The prospect of the nomination of McLean, upon whom perhaps more of the opposition element to the Administration might have been concentrated, owing to a prejudice existing against Mr. Fillmore in the minds of the *par excellent* Republicans, because forsooth he fearlessly executed a law passed by Congress and held to be constitutional by the highest judicial tribunal of the country, and against which not even a still small voice was heard in the Republican Convention; the claims of Mr. Fillmore have been for a time to some extent eclipsed in the North, but even as the brightest star in the firmament is the more brilliant as it emerges from beneath the cloud, under which for a while it has been hidden, so now with the claims of Millard Fillmore. He may not perhaps obtain the support of the ultra dis-unionists of the North, as we know he will not the fire-eating, slave propaganda dis-unionists of the South; but his merits entitle him to the undivided support of the Union loving, peaceable, orderly, discreet American patriots everywhere—North, South, East and West—and he will receive it. It may be, that in these times there cannot be found enough with strong nerves and brave hearts to elect such a man, but it is better to fight under him, bearing aloft as he

does the flag of his country, inscribed upon it, "The American Union," "The Constitution," "The Band of American hearts," and suffer defeat, than to join in achieving a victory, the shouts over which may come back to mingle with the sad and discordant notes of the country's knell.

O. F. MOORE.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 24, 1856.

CIRCULAR.

The undersigned, members of the NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN PARTY, have pleasure in announcing to the people, that satisfactory arrangements for the future maintenance of the AMERICAN ORGAN, as an authoritative *exponent and advocate* of the principles of the *American Party*, have been completed.

Recommencing its labors, under these new auspices, the undersigned cheerfully commend the AMERICAN ORGAN to the generous confidence of the *American Party*, in every section of the Confederacy, and they hope its columns may command the widest circulation.

HUMPHREY MARSHALL, of Ky.
SOLOMON G. HAVEN, of N. Y.
J. MORRISON HARRIS, of Md.
JACOB BROOM, of Penn.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., May 15, 1856.

PROSPECTUS OF THE AMERICAN ORGAN.

The *American Organ* having been adopted, by the *Executive Committee* of the *American members of Congress*, as the *central organ* of the *American Party*, the proprietor, with a view to its general and extensive circulation throughout the country, has determined, on consultation with his political friends, to furnish the same to subscribers, whose subscriptions are remitted after May 1st, and during the months of May, June, and July, on the following reduced terms, to wit:

Daily Organ,	for one year	- - - - -	\$3.00
"	for six months	- - - - -	2.00
Weekly Organ,	for one year, to single subscribers	- - - - -	1.50
"	for six months, to single subscribers	- - - - -	1.00
"	for 1 year, to clubs of 8 or more subscribers, each	- - - - -	1.25
"	for 6 months, " " " " " each	- - - - -	.75
"	for the Campaign, to wit: from 1st July to 15th Nov. each	- - - - -	.50

All subscribers whose subscriptions have been remitted during the month of May, have been charged only at above rates.

Any person forwarding \$5 for ten copies of the *Organ for the Campaign*, shall receive one copy gratis, and so in proportion for 20, 30, or more copies; but *commissions to agents* cannot be afforded at the above prices, and the proprietor must rely upon the exertions of those who are friendly to the *American cause*, to make-up clubs at the above rates; nevertheless, in order to induce prominent gentlemen of the *American Party* to subscribe liberally for copies to distribute gratuitously, the proprietor will receive \$50 from any individual for fifty copies of the *Weekly* for one year, and will mail them as the subscribers for that number of copies shall direct. It is believed that on these terms, thousands will be gratuitously distributed. Agents can, of course, avail themselves of these terms.

Any person may also become a *volunteer agent*, and procure subscribers, singly or otherwise, at \$1 50 for each yearly subscriber to the *Weekly*, and remit \$1 25 for each, and retain the twenty-five cents on each yearly subscriber for his trouble. No commission can be allowed on *six months* or on *campaign* subscriptions.



Notes of specie-paying banks only
or for documents.

or papers

Money contained in letters mailed to the proprietor, can *only* be considered at his risk, if the writers of the letters retain proofs of the amount mailed, and the dates when mailed; and in all cases, if the papers or documents ordered, shall not be received in due course of the return mail, the subscribers should, without delay, transmit the proof showing the amount mailed and the date of mailing the same, so that prompt investigation may be made to ascertain the cause of the non-reception of the money.

Specie sent by mail, being liable to drop from letters, will in no case be considered at the proprietor's risk.

Single papers being more liable to miscarry than *large* packages, it is the interest of all subscribers to unite with clubs.

The *names* of subscribers, as well as of the *post offices*, *counties*, and *states*, should always be written *legibly* and *in full*, to avoid errors.

As *all* subscriptions are to be paid *invariably in advance*, no acknowledgment of money received will be necessary, as the forwarding of the papers or documents will be proof that the money has been received for the same.

Subscriptions *not* renewed before the expiration of the term of any former subscription, will always be discontinued at the expiration thereof; hence those wishing to renew will please do so in time to prevent the erasure of their names from the mail books.

All documents published by order of the Congressional Committee of the American Party, or by American members of Congress, will always be advertised in the *Organ*, and sent, *postage pre-paid*, on the receipt of the price at which they are advertised. *No accounts can be kept either for documents or papers.*

Subscribers changing their papers from one post office to another, must give the names of *both* post offices, the one *from* which and the one *to* which they desire the change made.

Letters to the editor or to the proprietor should always be as *brief* as may be consistent with the purposes to be accomplished thereby, and if intended for publication, they must only be written on one side of each half sheet, and no sentence should run from one page to another, but each half sheet should commence a paragraph. A compliance with this rule is indispensable to the publication of any communication.

Subscribers and correspondents should bear in mind, that the *observance* of fixed rules and regulations in an extensive publishing office, where the duties are divided amongst numerous employés, is *indispensable* to success, and that they cannot be disregarded without producing confusion and disorder, and the proprietor of the *Organ* therefore, *respectfully*, but *earnestly*, requests that subscribers and correspondents will carefully observe the above mentioned terms and regulations, established to prevent errors and disappointments.

All present and future subscribers to the *Organ*, are solicited to assist in extending its circulation, and by this means, to aid in carrying out the "American Reformation," and in perpetuating the free institutions of "our native land."

All communications should be directed to the *American Organ*, Washington city, D. C.

VESPASIAN ELLIS, Proprietor.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 011 898 296 4

